President Urges Hiring of Women: A recent Presidential memorandum to heads of departments and agencies says, "I ask you that you work, aggressively and creatively, to provide maximum opportunities for women in the Federal career service. This means developing, within merit principles, innovative programs to recruit and hire qualified women and to be sure they have the opportunity for satisfying career development."

(Presidential Memorandum of Nov. 17, 1977.)

Special Hiring Plan for Women and Minorities Debated: CSC has held two public hearings on a plan formulated by Vice Chairman Jule M. Sugarman. His proposal is designed to permit experimentation with special hiring methods for filling jobs in which minorities or women are underrepresented, with possible conversion to career appointments.

work force, or its hiring rate, shows an adverse impact on a given group, the agency may ask the Commission for authority to invoke the plan. This, however, would not be mandatory.

Many changes were suggested by those testifying. CSC will consider all comments before either revising and recirculating the original plan, or adopting a new one.

(Administrator's Alert, December 1977, Vol. 8, No. 6.)

\*

Award for Retirees: \$2,500 will be awarded annually to the Federal Retiree of the Year by the National Association of Retired Federal Employees in cooperation with CSC.

The first award will be made to a person who retired

during 1977.

Competition is open to Federal civilian workers who retire on "immediate annuity" after 25 years of service, which may include military.

(FPM Bulletin 451-16, Nov. 19, 1977.)

Two Win Nobel: Two researchers from Veterans Administration hospitals shared the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize in Medicine for their work in the chemistry of human hormones

Dr. Rossalyn S. Yalow, 56, of the Bronx (N.Y.) VA hospital is the second woman to win the Nobel in medicine. In 1961 she received the Federal Woman's Award.

Dr. Andrew V. Schally, 50, and the second winner, is affiliated with the VA hospital in New Orleans. He conducted research in the brain chemistry of peptide hormones.

In the past 9 years, 6 Federal employees have received the Nobel. Four were from the National Institutes of Health.

(Federal News Clip Sheet, November 1977, No. 180.)

Solicitation Permitted: CSC has lifted a long-time ban on releasing the names, titles, grades, salaries, and duty stations of Federal employees. Previously, they were withheld if there was reason to believe the request was for commercial purposes. The Commission's action is in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act of 1974. (Federal News Clip Sheet, November 1977, No. 180.)

--Ed Staples

Civil Service Journal Vol 18 No 3 Jan/Mar 1978 p. 3

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